From: Robert and Patricia Banach **Sent:** Tuesday, March 11, 2014 7:09 PM

Subject: Senate Bill 259

Dear Judiciary Committee,

We are writing to <u>very strongly oppose</u> Senate Bill 259, the proposal that would cut "drug free zone" areas from within 1,500 feet of a school, day care, or public housing complex, to within 200 feet. This bill makes absolutely no sense. Why would we reduce the penalties for selling drugs in an area close to schools, day cares, and housing complexes? We want drug dealers off our streets and we want the penalties to be strict. We can hardly imagine why you would want to make it easier for children to be preyed upon by these loathsome dealers. Drugs ruin lives and once a child is hooked it is a tragedy that costs lives, families, and society. Turn your attention to something else that needs doing and leave this existing law alone.

Robert and Patricia Banach 104 Green Tree Lane Somers, CT 06071